

Dear Director Mouritsen:

I hereby file this Protest of the Bureau of Land Management's ("BLM") planned March 2018 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale and the programmatic Final Environmental Assessment for oil and gas leasing in the Wayne National Forest, Marietta Unit of the Athens Ranger District, Monroe and Noble Counties, Ohio --2 Parcels covering 345.49 acres.

ES-004

39.65 acres in Monroe County

ES-005

305.84 acres in Noble County

PROTEST

I. Protesting Party: Contact Information and Interests

This Protest is filed on behalf of:

Name: Rebecca Pollard

Address: 2508 Dewing Ave. Columbus, OH 43202

II. Statement of Reasons as to Why the Proposed Lease Sale Is Unlawful:

BLM's proposed decision to lease the parcels listed above is substantively and procedurally flawed for the reasons discussed below:

The forest plan for Wayne National Forest (WNF) is outdated and the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for these leases fails to consider the impacts of horizontal drilling in the area. All leasing should be halted until the update of the Forest Plan has been completed and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared.

The impacts of fracking in WNF ~~is~~ extend beyond the forest itself. Impacts on nearby communities, on everyone affected by contamination of the Ohio River, and everyone impacted by climate change should be considered.

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